

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, PORG, GH, PINR, SREF

SUBJECT: GHANIAN CANDIDATE FOR POST OF UN DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
COOPERATION
REF: ACCRA 132

1. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE GHANIAN FONMIN'S DEMARCHE IN
ACCRA REPORTED REFTEL, GHANIAN MINISTER-COUNSELOR
AGYEMAN CALLED ON DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IO/
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY JANUARY 18 TO
REQUEST US SUPPORT FOR KENNETH DADZIE FOR APPOINTMENT TO
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THE SUBJECT POST AND TO ASK US TO PUT IN A GOOD WORD
WITH SYG WALDHEIM. IN MAKING THIS REQUEST, AGYEMAN
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE APPOINTMENT WAS, OF COURSE,
WALDHEIM'S RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT THE US PROBABLY WOULD
NOT BE IN A POSITION AT THIS STAGE TO INDICATE ITS
SUPPORT. HE LEFT AN AIDE-MEMOIRE GIVING DADZIE'S
QUALIFICATIONS. THE AIDE-MEMOIRE ALSO REFERS TO THE

CANDIDACY OF FORMER SUDANESE FOREIGN MINISTER (MANSUR KHALID), POINTING OUT THAT, IN TERMS OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF UN POSTS, THERE IS ALREADY A DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL FROM THE "MIDDLE EASTERN REGION" IN TOP POSITIONS OF THE UN AS COMPARED

WITH THOSE FROM THE "AFRICAN REGION". AGYEMAN EXPLAINED THIS AS MEANING SUB-SAHARA AFRICA AS DISTINCT FROM THE ARAB AREAS OF AFRICA AND THE NEAR EAST.

2. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION IN KNOWING THE GOG'S INTEREST; INDICATED OUR HIGH REGARD FOR DADZIE'S WORK AS CHAIRMAN OF THE UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING; STATED OUR GENERAL UNDERSTANDING THAT THE POST WOULD GO TO SOMEONE FROM AN LDC; BUT CONFIRMED THAT WE WERE NOT AT THIS STAGE IN A POSITION TO INDICATE OUR SUPPORT FOR ANY OF THE TEN OR SO CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES HAD BEEN MENTIONED, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD WISH TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION FURTHER SHOULD WALDHEIM WANT TO CONSULT US.

3. IN DISCUSSING OTHER AFRICANS WHO HAVE BEEN MENTIONED, AGYEMAN DISMISSED UN UNDER SYG DJERMAKOYE (NIGER) AS NOT BEING A SIGNIFICANT CONTENDER. HE DOUBTED ECA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ADEDEJI (NIGERIA) HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT SINCE HE SAID THE LATTER WAS GIVING ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPPORT TO DADZIE, AS WAS TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA.

4. AGYEMAN SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT A WRITTEN REPLY TO THE AIDE-MEMOIRE.

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